



Breaking Through Barriers

## AAUW-WA State Convention 2018 Speakers Bios

---



**US Senator Patty Murray** has served as a U.S. Senator and a member of Senate Democratic leadership since 2007, establishing herself as a tireless and effective leader on education, transportation, budget issues, port security, healthcare, women and veterans' issues.

In addition to becoming the first female Senator from Washington state, Patty served as the first female Chair of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee during the 112th Congress and served as the first female Chair of the Senate Budget Committee during the 113th Congress. She is currently Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. She was elected to the Washington State Senate in

1988 and ran for United States Senate in 1992 as a voice for Washington families who were not being heard. She was reelected in 1998, 2004, 2010 and 2016.

As a unique voice in the United States Senate, Patty is known for her down-to-earth, determined style. She's been called "a workhorse, not a show horse" by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer for her intense, behind-the-scenes efforts to get the job done. She currently serves on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee; Employment and Workplace Safety; Appropriations; Budget; Homeland Security; and Veteran's Affairs Committees.

---



**Jack Nisbet**, Spokane-based teacher, naturalist, historian and author, has written several books that explore the human and natural history of the Intermountain West. His story collections "Purple Flat Top" and "Singing Grass Burning Sage" are illustrated explorations of the flora and fauna of the dry side of the Cascade Range. His essay collection "Visible Bones" won awards from the Washington State Library Association and the Seattle Times, and his highly regarded "Sources of the River" received the Murray Morgan Prize from the Washington State Historical Society. Nisbet's "The Collector: David Douglas" was a PNBA Book of the year, and Nisbet now curates a museum exhibit connecting Douglas's vision to the Northwest

landscape we see today.



---

**Professor Bonnie J. Dunbar, PhD NAE RSEcorr**

Director, Institute for Engineering Education Innovation (IEEI)  
TEES Distinguished Research Professor Department of  
Aerospace Engineering, Texas A&M University

Dr. Dunbar is a retired NASA astronaut, engineer and educator, currently with Texas A&M Engineering as a Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of Aerospace Engineering. She also has a joint appointment as the Director of the TEES

Institute for Engineering Education and Innovation (IEEI).

Dr. Dunbar, a member of the National Academy of Engineering, came to Texas A&M from the University of Houston where she was an M.D. Anderson Professor of Mechanical Engineering. She provided leadership in the development of a new integrated university science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) center and served as The Director of the Science and Engineering Fair of Houston. She taught Mechanical Engineering; "Introduction to Engineering" and directed the SICSA Space Architecture and Aerospace graduate programs. She has devoted her life to furthering engineering, engineering education, and the pursuit of human space exploration.

Dunbar worked for The Rockwell International Space Division Company building Space Shuttle Columbia, working for 27 years at NASA, first as a flight controller; then as a mission specialist astronaut. She flew five space shuttle flights, logging more than 50 days in space. She served for 7 years as a member of the NASA Senior Executive Service (SES). Her executive service included assistant NASA JSC Director for university research; deputy director for Flight Crew Operations; Associate Director for ISS Mission Operations Development. She was a NASA headquarters Deputy Associate Administrator for the Office of Life and Microgravity Sciences and Applications (OLMSA). She served as part of the Challenger Space Shuttle accident investigation team.

After retiring from NASA, Dunbar became President and CEO of The Museum of Flight in Seattle, where she established a new Space Gallery and expanded its K-12 STEM educational offerings. She consulted in aerospace and STEM education as the President of Dunbar International LLC and is an internationally known public speaker.

Dunbar holds bachelor and master's degrees in ceramic engineering from the University of Washington and a Ph.D. in mechanical/biomedical engineering from the University of Houston. She is a Fellow of the American Ceramic Society, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the Royal

Aeronautical Society. She has been awarded the NASA Space Flight Medal five times, the NASA Exceptional Leadership Medal and the NASA Distinguished Service Medal. Dunbar was inducted into the Royal Society of Edinburgh. In 2002 she was elected to the US National Academy of Engineering. In 2013 she was selected into the Astronaut Hall of Fame. In 2016 she was inducted into the Omega Alpha Association (OAA) Systems Engineering Honor Society, and in 2017 Dr. Dunbar was elected as the President of the Association of Space Explorers (ASE).

---



**Pamela Oakes** is a Nonprofit Strategist, Speaker and Coach currently on assignment as an Associate Program Officer of Strategic Planning and Engagement with the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**. Prior to joining the foundation in 2010, Pamela lived for several years in Johannesburg, South Africa, working for and promoting humanitarian efforts with the I CAN Foundation. As a Trainer with this NGO, she traveled extensively throughout the African countries of South Africa, Botswana, Swaziland,

Nigeria and Zimbabwe, conducting workshops and training seminars for government, corporate, community, and faith-based organizations in the areas of Change Management, Organizational Transformation, Affirmative Action, Employment and Gender Equity, Diversity, HIV/AIDS Awareness, and Personal Empowerment. A firm believer in “paying it forward,” Pamela has devoted much of her free time volunteering with local initiatives, such as the YWCA Housing Stability Program, the Kent Regional Justice Center and the YWCA Girls First Program. Pamela attended the University of Washington where she majored in Political Science. A native of Seattle, she enjoys travelling the globe, experiencing new cultures and collecting African-American art.

---



**Sue Guenter-Schlesinger, PhD** is the Vice Provost for Equal Opportunity and Employment Diversity at Western Washington University where she serves as the university’s Title IX and ADA Coordinator and adjunct faculty member in the College of Business and Economics. She previously served 14 years as Assistant Executive Vice President, Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action at Utah State University. She earned her BA and MA in English from the University of California, Los Angeles, as well as a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration. Dr. Guenter-Schlesinger began her career with the University of Maryland’s



## Breaking Through Barriers

European Division and the U.S. Army Research Institute, serving as Director for the U.S. Army's Equal Opportunity Program in the European Command in Heidelberg, Germany.

In her current role, Dr. Guenter-Schlesinger is chief advisor to WWU's President and Provost on equal opportunity and employment diversity issues. Her responsibilities include strategic work on initiatives aimed at recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce, implementing federal and state civil rights statutes that ensure equity and fairness to students, faculty and staff, and implementing the university's affirmative action program. She investigates race, gender, and other legally protected status discrimination complaints and provides leadership, along with other training, in disability rights, the prevention of sexual harassment and sexual violence, and other equity and diversity issues.

---



**Kimberly Anderson, J.D.** is the Executive Director of Compliance at Washington State University. She serves as the University's Title IX Coordinator, ADA Coordinator, and oversees other areas relating to civil rights compliance and equal opportunity. She is passionate about ensuring that WSU's campuses are safe and inclusive environments for all. Ms. Anderson received her Juris Doctor degree from Northeastern University School of Law, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Idaho.

---



**Janet Bungler** is AAUW National Finance Vice-Chair, overseeing the Finance and Investment Committees. The Investment Committee oversees the investment portfolio for AAUW and AAUW Action Fund. Before serving on the National Board, for the past 5 years, Ms. Bungler has been both a Branch and State Treasurer and State President for Utah for two terms. She is a 24-year member of AAUW, seeking ways to advocate for equity. She has degrees from the University of Utah in mathematics and accounting and became a CPA working in public accounting and as a financial advisor. She is a longtime volunteer, serving on boards for The Utah Girl Scouts, Symphony Guild and "Real Women Run," a coalition of organizations that encourage women to run for office.

---



**Eileen Baratuci, J.D.**, is the owner of Arbitration, Investigation and Mediation Services PLLC. She graduated cum laude from the University of Puget Sound School of Law, (now Seattle University School of Law). She received the President's Award for Scholarship for academic achievement and served as the Business Editor for the Law Review.

Eileen started her career as a litigator, doing complex litigation, medical malpractice defense, product liability and employment claims. She became senior partner in a Seattle firm focusing exclusively on employment advice, labor arbitrations, labor negotiations, training and employment litigation. She worked primarily with public entities throughout Washington State. She now owns her own firm and continues to consult on employment matters, conducting training programs and workplace investigations.

Eileen is a member of the Washington State Bar Association, Employment Law and Mediation Sections and is President of the Jefferson County Bar Association. She is currently serving as the Vice President and Director of Programs for the American Association of University Women for the State of Washington and is active in the local branch of AAUW in Port Townsend.

---



**Delancey Lane** works as an aide for **State Senator Patty Kuderer** and is a West Seattle native. A recent graduate of American University in D.C., she started an AAUW student chapter, which now tops 200 members, and worked for the national office's campus leadership department. She has previously worked for organizations focused on closing the literacy gap, increasing minority participation in STEM, and finding solutions to urban policy issues. She has recently joined AAUW-WA board as our College Campus Liaison.

---





**Washington State Representative Tana Senn** represents the 41st Legislative District. Representative Senn has championed legislation to close the gender pay gap and ensure our children have access to mental health services and social-emotional learning in our schools. As a working mom with two kids, Representative Senn brings an important perspective to legislative issues. She consistently advocates for busy families through policies that address education and community needs, as well as upstream solutions to prevent crises before they occur.

After earning a master's degree in Public Policy and Administration from Columbia University, Representative Senn worked for 15 years in government relations and communications in the private, nonprofit and philanthropic sectors before her tenure on the Mercer Island City Council and now with the Washington House of Representatives.

---



**Kelly Paradis, J.D.**, is an Assistant Attorney General with the Washington State Attorney General's Office where she specializes in appellate practice. Ms. Paradis joined the Attorney General's Office in 2016, serving initially in a fellowship position with the Solicitor General's Office. During that time, she served on the litigation team for *Washington v. Trump*, which resulted in a successful challenge to President Trump's first executive order on immigration, known as the "travel ban". Prior to working at the Attorney General's Office, Ms. Paradis worked at the Washington State Court of

Appeals, where she served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Ronald E. Cox, the Honorable Mary Kay Becker, and the Honorable Michael J. Trickey. Ms. Paradis also worked at the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, as a personal legal assistant and judicial extern to the Honorable Ronald M. Gould. Ms. Paradis is a graduate of the University of Washington School of Law and the George Washington University.

---



**Karen Anderson** grew up in a struggling working-class family in Lawrence, Kansas. There she benefited from a strong public-school system and family support for educational achievement. She received a B.S. in education from the University of Kansas in 1969 and a Ph.D. in history from the University of Washington in 1975. Her specialties included women’s history and the twentieth century United States history. She taught history and women’s studies at the University of Arizona for over 30 years. Her publications include *Little Rock: Race and Resistance at Central High School* (Princeton University Press, 2011) and *Wartime Women: Sex Roles, Family*

*Relations, and the Status of Women During World War II* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1981). A lifelong feminist, Ms. Anderson joined AAUW after moving to Gig Harbor in order to do what she could to advance women’s empowerment. She currently serves on the board of the Gig Harbor branch and as public policy chair for AAUW-WA.



If **Anne Egeler, J.D., Deputy Solicitor General**, is not attending an argument for Washington Attorney General’s Office at the US Supreme Court, she plans to join us and co-present with Ms. Paradis. Ms. Egeler joined the Attorney General’s Office in 1990 and became part of the Solicitor General’s team in 2007. She specializes in appellate work before the Washington Supreme Court, Ninth Circuit, and United States Supreme Court. Her work covers a wide variety of issues, including state and federal constitutional challenges, criminal justice, tax law, education, and civil commitment. In 2014, the National Association of Attorneys General

awarded her a Supreme Court Fellowship to study United States Supreme Court practice and to author multi-state amicus briefs. Ms. Egeler serves on the board of Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services and Washington Women Lawyer’s Capital Chapter. In 2017, the Washington State Bar Association named her a “Local Hero” for her years of volunteer work. Ms. Egeler is a graduate of the University of Washington and Seattle University School of Law.



**Karen Manelis** is in her second career as a tax auditor with the Internal Revenue Service. She previously retired from Dow AgroSciences after having worked in field research for almost 30 years. She has a B.S. degree in Biological Sciences from the University of California, Davis.

A life member of AAUW, Karen has served on branch, state and the national board. She was president of AAUW-California when Tech Trek was founded, and a dorm monitor at the first camp at Stanford in 1998. In 1999, she founded the Tech Trek camp at California State University, Fresno, and directed that camp until her move to Washington in 2007. Since 2013, she has once again been spearheading the Tech Trek efforts for AAUW of Washington.

With AAUW roots in California, she still belongs to two branches in that state (Davis and CA Online), Gresham Area Branch in Oregon, and Vancouver and OnLine branches in Washington. She and her husband live in Battle Ground. They have three grown children and nine grandchildren – including three 2-year olds!

---